

REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA



No. 1252.

Gloucester, Mass., 3 settembre 1913.

Signor Segretario di Stato:

*Art. 2  
Jo Commerce  
Sept 20 0/e  
File 88.*

Fin dal 1901, il Governo del Re, compenetrato della necessità di fare erigere un faro al Capo Guardafui e nel pensiero fosse giusto che alle non indifferenti spese di costruzione e di manutenzione di esso concorressero anche le Marine estere le quali, per la loro maggiore intensità di traffici, si sarebbero, più della nostra, avvantaggiate del faro, rivolse proposte in proposito ai Governi esteri interessati.

La primitiva proposta fu nel senso di una tassa di fanalaggio da parte delle navi transitanti al Capo Guardafui. La tassa doveva essere in proporzione del tonnellaggio e ad un tasso fisso per tonnellata; tasso che indicato dapprima a un massimo di centesimi cinque, fu poi ridotto ad un massimo di due o tre centesimi a seconda della rotta delle navi.

In seguito alle difficoltà frapposte dal Governo britannico, le trattative non approdarono e rimasero sospese sulla ultima proposta fatta dal Governo del Re colla nota diretta il 7 luglio 1908 dalla Ambasciata di Sua Maestà in Londra al Governo britannico. La proposta in questione era la seguente: Il faro al Capo Guardafui sarebbe mantenuto e costruito con contribuzioni annuali, di somme globali, da corrispondersi dai vari Governi interessati.

Il Governo britannico, spinto dalle pressioni della Marina mercantile nazionale, ha di recente ripreso in esame la nostra proposta.

A Sua Eccellenza  
L'Onorevole W.J. Bryan,  
Segretario di Stato,  
Washington, D.C.

8667.822

SEP 23 1913

del 1908 e nel dichiararsi pronto ad accettarla alle condizioni seguenti:

1) Che la contribuzione britannica sia basata sulla proporzione tra il tonnellaggio totale britannico che farà uso del faro e il tonnellaggio totale che si servirà del faro stesso;

2) Che contribuzioni analoghe siano corrisposte dalle altre nazioni interessate;

esso ha chiesto di conoscere se il Governo del Re era disposto a riprendere su queste basi gli studi e le pratiche per la erezione del faro al Capo Guardafui, e ne ha avuto risposta affermativa.

Il Governo del Re, avendo presente le passate trattative e la risposta favorevole di massima avuta al riguardo dal Governo degli Stati Uniti, come risulta dalla nota di codesto Dipartimento di Stato in data del 23 ottobre 1901, mi ha ordinato di esporre all'Eccellenza Vostra quanto precede e di rivolgerle viva preghiera di voler, nell'interesse generale della navigazione che doppia il Capo Guardafui, aderire alla predetta nostra proposta del 1908 colle condizioni che il Governo britannico pone all'attuazione di essa.

Il Governo del Re mi ha inoltre fatto sapere che, stante gli aumenti verificatisi nei prezzi dei materiali, dei trasporti, della mano d'opera, la spesa totale di costruzione del faro sarà oggi assai maggiore dell'ammontare di un milione di lire italiane prevista nel 1901; che la spesa di manutenzione annua si aggirerà sulle centotrentamila lire circa; che sono stati iniziati studi per accertare il più esattamente possibile l'ammontare di queste spese e per stabilire quali saranno le quote dovute da ogni singolo Stato interessato.

Nel ringraziare anticipatamente l'Eccellenza Vostra della

risposta che in proposito Ella mi vorrà far pervenire a suo tempo, Le rinnovo, Signor Segretario di Stato, l'espressione della mia più alta considerazione.

*Cusani*

# Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy

Gloucester, Mass., September 3, 1913.

N<sup>o</sup> 1252.

Mr Secretary of State,

As far back of 1901, the King's Government imbued with the necessity of having a light house built in Cape Guardafui and believing it fair that foreign shipping interests which from the greater bulk of their trade would derive greater advantages from the light house than ours should also contribute to the not inconsiderable expense of building and operating it, submitted proposals on the subject to the foreign Governments concerned.

The original proposition contemplated light dues to be paid by vessels in transit at Cape Guardafui. The dues were to be proportionate to the tonnage and on the basis of a fixed rate per ton; it was first announced not to exceed five centimes, and was later reduced to a maximum of two or three centimes according to the vessels' course.

As a result of the difficulties interposed by the British Government, the negotiations did not avail and rested in suspense on the last proposal made by the King's Government in a note written on July 7, 1908 by the Legation Embassy at London to the British Government. It was as follows:  
The Cape Guardafui light house should be built and maintained by annual contributions, or lump sums, to be paid by the several Governments interested.

The British Government, urged by the solicitations of its merchant marine, recently took up anew the proposal and in declaring its readiness to accept it on the following

conditions:

1. That the British contribution should be



based on the proportion of the total British tonnage making use of the light house to the total tonnage availing itself of it;

2. that analogous contributions would be furnished by the other interested nations;

inquired whether the King's Government was disposed to resume, on these bases, the surveys and plans for the erection of the Cape Guardafui light house and was given an affirmative answer.

The King's Government bearing in mind former negotiations with and the answer, favorable in principle, of the Government of the United States on the subject, as shown in the note of October 23, 1901, from the Department of State, has directed me to lay the foregoing statement before your Excellency and to entreat you, in the interest of all the ships that double Cape Guardafui, to adhere to our proposal of 1908 with the conditions stated upon its execution by the British Government.

The King's Government further informs me that owing to the increase in the cost of material, transportation and labor, the total expense of building the light house will at this time be rather in excess of the estimate of one million Italian lire made in 1901, that the annual cost of maintenance will approximate one hundred and thirty thousand lire; that inquiries have been set on foot to ascertain as nearly as possible the exact amount of the cost and expenses and to determine the amount of the quotas due by each individual State concerned.

Thanking your Excellency in advance for such answer as you may be pleased to return in due course, I renew to you, Mr. Secretary of State, the expression of my highest consideration

I Am, Excellency

Crispien

The honorable W. J. Bryan  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D.C.

September 20, 1915.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for an expression of your views a translation of a note from the Italian Ambassador at this capital in which he renounces a proposal formerly made by the Government of Italy for international contribution for the erection and maintenance of a light house at Cape Guardafui.

It appears that the British Government has expressed its willingness to adhere to the proposition on the following conditions: 1st, that the British contribution should be based on the proportion of the total British tonnage making use of the light house to the total tonnage availing itself of it; and 2nd, that other interested nations should furnish analogous contributions.

You will notice that the Italian Government now estimates the cost of the light house at over one million

Italian

His Excellency

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,

Ambassador of Italy.



865b.822

7 2/3

865b.822-1

Italian lire, and that the annual cost of maintenance will approximate 130,000 lire.

The Ambassador refers to the fact that the proposal was first made to the United States in 1901 and received favorable consideration by this Government. In this connection you are referred to a letter from the Treasury Department to this Department dated October 18, 1901, expressing the views of the Light House Board as favoring an annual appropriation rather than the imposition of tonnage dues on shipping, to meet the cost of the establishment and maintenance of the light. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

ALFRED L. DUFF

Enclosures:

From Italian Ambassador,  
September 3, 1913.  
From Treasury Department,  
October 16, 1901.

Second Assistant Secretary.

865b.822

7 2/3

His Excellency

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,

Ambassador of Italy.

865b.822

7 2/3



No.

September 20, 1913.

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 3d instant in which you bring to the attention of this Government a proposal of your Government for the erection and maintenance at Cape Guardafui of a light house at the cost, for erection and maintenance, of contributing nations whose shipping avails itself of the benefits of the light.

The Department has taken pleasure in referring your note to the Department of Commerce for an expression of its views.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

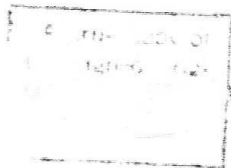
His Excellency

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,  
Ambassador of Italy.

865b.822

7 2/3

865b.822



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

WASHINGTON



October 10, 1913.

Sir:-

Referring to the State Department letter dated September 20, 1913, with reference to the proposal of the Italian Government for international contribution for the erection and maintenance of a lighthouse at Cape Guardafui.

I beg to reply that this Department is favorably disposed toward the project, subject, however, to action on the part of Congress.

Since, however, it appears to be the preference that contributions for this object should be based upon the tonnage of shipping passing Cape Guardafui rather than a fixed amount as suggested by this Department, I have to request that, if practicable, the State Department obtain and furnish this Department an itemized estimate of the cost of construction and maintenance of the proposed lighthouse, also an approximate statement as to what the United States' share of each would be on the tonnage basis.

Respectfully,

*Albert Lee Thurman*

Acting Secretary.

The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

basis in the cost of construction and the cost of

maintenance

His Excellency

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,

Ambassador of Italy.

8654.822/1

OCT 18 1913



No. 1434

October 16, 1913.

Excellency:

Referring to your note of the 3d ultimo and the Department's reply of the 20th ultimo, I have the honor to say that the Department has received a letter from the Department of Commerce, dated the 10th instant, stating that that Department is favorably disposed towards your Government's project to erect and maintain by international contribution a lighthouse at Cape Guardafui, subject, however, to the necessary action on the part of Congress in appropriating therefor.

The Department of Commerce adds that if practicable it would be glad to receive an itemized estimate of the cost of construction and maintenance of the proposed lighthouse; also an approximate statement as to what would be the share of the United States on the tonnage basis in the cost of construction and the cost of

maintenance

His Excellency

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,  
Ambassador of Italy.

865-8.822/1

maintenance of the proposed lighthouse.

The Department would be pleased to receive this statement as soon as your Government may find itself able to furnish it.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

J. D. MOORE

Acting Secretary of State.

865b.822/1  
7 2 3 8/1

NOV 12 1913  
DEPT. OF STATE  
No. 1529.

REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

Washington D.C. 11 novembre 1913

Signor Segretario di Stato

Nel segnare ricevuta all'Eccellenza Vostra e ringraziarla della sua nota in data del 20 settembre u.S. relativo alla progettata costruzione di un faro al Capo Guardafui, mi onoro, secondo le istruzioni ricevute, di comunicarle qui in appresso i seguenti dati più precisi, forniti in proposito dal Regio Ministero della Marina.

Gli studi fatti sul posto e poi controllati ed aggiornati dagli organi tecnici competenti consentono di fissare a lire 1.400.000 le spese di costruzione ed a lire 130.000 quelle di esercizio.

La quota annuale che verrebbero a pagare le principali Nazioni risulta dalle qui unite tabelle, redatte in base al movimento delle navi negli ultimi anni.

Per le navi del primo gruppo, cioè per quelle provenienti o dirette ai porti del Golfo del Bengala, agli stretti, in Estremo Oriente, alle Indie Olandesi, in Australia ecc., stabilendo la tassa di fanalaggio ad un centesimo per tonnellata di registro, si avrebbe un

A Sua Eccellenza

L'Onorevole W.J. Bryan

Segretario di Stato

Washington D.C.

865 L. 822

NOV 21 1913

introito di circa lire 136.000. Nel computo fatto sul movimento marittimo di dieci anni fa -con una tassa doppia ,cioè di due centesimi per tonnellata - si prevedeva un introito di poco superiore ,cioè di circa lire 165.000.

Ad ogni modo colla tassa di un centesimo per le navi del primo gruppo ,e con quella di tre centesimi per tonnellata già prevista in un computo fatto dieci anni fa, per le navi del secondo gruppo ,cioè per quelle provenienti o dirette ai porti dell'Africa Orientale ,si prevede un introito complessivo di circa 150.000 lire annue ,più che sufficiente a sopperire alle spese di esercizio del faro ,e ad un lento ammortamento del capitale d'impianto.

Tali notizie e previsioni sono fondate sull'ipotesi che tutte le Nazioni accettino il pagamento della tassa di fanalaggio ,e che il movimento marittimo sovraindicato si mantenga all'incirca quello che era due anni fa.

Il Regio Ministero della Marina si dichiara pronto a contribuire largamente con mezzi di trasporto per diminuire le spese ed accelerare l'opera.

Il Governo del Re annette molta importanza a ricevere al più presto possibile una risposta in argomento circa la definitiva decisione del Governo degli Stati Uniti ,ed è fiducioso che la risposta stessa sarà favorevole.

Gradisca, Signor Segretario di Stato, gli atti della mia più alta considerazione.

*Asani*

*Translation*

Royal Embassy of Italy

Washington, D.C., November 11, 1913.

N<sup>o</sup> 1529.

Mr Secretary of State,

I am acknowledging the receipt and thanking Your Excellency for your note of the 25<sup>th</sup> of September last in regard to the contemplated erection of a light house on Cape Guardafui, I have the honor, in compliance with instructions received to communicate to you hereinbelow the following fuller particulars furnished on the subject by the Royal Ministry of Marine.

The surveys made on the spot and later verified and brought up to date by the competent technical agencies agree in setting at 1,400,000 lire the cost of construction and at 130,000 lire that of operation.

The annual quota to be paid by the trading stations is shown in the tables herewith based on the movements of vessels in the last year.

The vessels of the first group, that is to say, those coming from or going to ports in the Gulf of Bengal, the Straits, the Far East, the Indian Ocean, Australia, &c. the light house dues being at the rate of one centime per registered ton would yield about 136,000 lire. In the estimate made on the basis of the movements of vessels ten years ago - at a double rate viz: two centimes per ton - slightly higher returns, viz. about 165,000 lire were foreseen.

They say the rate of one centime for ships of the first group and that of three centimes per ton already provided in an estimate made ten years ago for ships of the second group, that is those coming from or going to ports of East Africa hold out a prospect of collecting an aggregate of about 150,000 lire yearly which is more than enough



to cover the cost of operating the light-house and a slow amortization of the capital of installation.

These statements and forecasts are based on the assumption that the Nations will agree to buy the light dues and that the maritime traffic as above indicated will keep about the same as it was two years ago.

The Royal Ministry of Marine has declared its readiness to contribute largely with means of transportation so as to lessen the expense and expedite the work.

The King's Government attaches great importance to receiving an answer as to final decision of the Government of the United States as soon as possible and trusts that it will be favorable.

Accept, Mr. Secretary of State, the assurances of my highest consideration

Casati

Yr. Excellency  
The Honorable W. J. Bryan  
Secretary of State  
Washington DC

November 19, 1913.

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I regret very much to inform you that it is reported to me that the tables of the annual quotas to be paid by the leading nations for the erection and maintenance of a light house at Cape Guardafui were not found enclosed with your note of November 11. If you will kindly furnish me with copies of these tables, the subject matter of your note will have prompt attention.

I am, my dear Marquis Cusani,

Very truly yours,

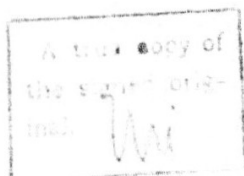
W. L. GAY

His Excellency  
Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,  
Ambassador of Italy.

865b.822/2

7 8/11

865-b-822/2



December 6, 1913.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of October 10th last requesting this Department to obtain from the Italian Government, if possible, an itemized estimate of the cost of construction and maintenance of the proposed lighthouse at Cape Guardafui, also an approximate statement as to what the share of the United States in each would be on the tonnage basis, I have the honor to enclose for your information a copy of a note from the Italian Ambassador, dated the 11th ultimo, with which he forwards papers containing the figures furnished by the Government of Italy.

The Italian Government desires to learn as soon as possible the final decision of this Government in the matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

Enclosure:  
From Italian Ambassador,  
November 11, 1913, with  
enclosures.

Counselor.

865b.822/2  
7 T/C

865-b.822-2/2



REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA



8656.822

Washington, D. C. December, 1, 1913.

Dear Mr. Secretary of State:

Answering Your Excellency's

letter of November 19, 1913, I have the honor to enclose the tables of the annual quotas to be paid by the leading nations for the erection and maintenance of a light house at Cape Guardafui, and which, by oversight, were not enclosed with my note of November 11.

I am, my dear Mr. Secretary,

Yours very truly,

Cusani

His Excellency,

The Honorable William J. Bryan,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.





DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR  
WASHINGTON

December 13, 1913.

Sir:

Referring to the State Department's letter of December 6, 1913, transmitting statements from the Italian Embassy as to the cost of constructing and maintaining the proposed lighthouse on Cape Guardiafui.

This Department is favorably disposed toward the project, and to the proposed method of meeting the cost of construction and maintenance of the lighthouse by annual contributions based on the amount of shipping under the flags of the governments entering into the agreement. It is understood that this statement is subject to action on the part of Congress in providing the necessary legislation.

It appears from the papers presented that if the United States undertakes to bear the entire cost described in the table as "various" (varie) the share of this government would be approximately one-fourth of one per cent. of the total sums, or 3,300 lire (\$700) toward the cost of construction, and 325 lire (\$65) annually toward the cost of maintenance, for both of which appropriations by Congress would be required.

This Department would be pleased to receive, when practicable, a copy of the plans and specifications for this lighthouse, accompanied by a map or chart showing general location, for its files.

Respectfully,

The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Assistant Secretary.

His Excellency

Government

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,  
Ambassador of Italy.

865-8.822/4

JAN 16 1914



No. 484

January 16, 1914.

Excellency:

Referring to your notes of September 3, November 11, and December 1 last, I have the honor to advise you that the Department has received a letter from the Department of Commerce which has examined the statements furnished by your Government concerning the cost of constructing and maintaining the proposed lighthouse on Cape Gardafui.

The Department of Commerce states that it is favorably disposed toward the plan and the proposed method of meeting the cost of construction and maintenance of the lighthouse by means of annual contributions based on the amount of shipping under the flags of the governments entering into the agreement.

It will, of course, be necessary for this Government to obtain the appropriation for this purpose from Congress.

The Department of Commerce notes that if the United States

His Excellency

Government

The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri,  
Ambassador of Italy.

8658.822/1

Government undertakes to bear the entire cost described in the table as "various" (varie) the share of this Government would be approximately one-fourth of one per cent of the total sums, or 3500 lire (\$700) toward the cost of construction and 325 lire (\$65) annually toward the cost of maintenance. The Department would be glad to be informed if this understanding of the matter is correct.

The Department of Commerce would be pleased to receive for its files when practicable a copy of the plans and specifications for the lighthouse, accompanied by a map or chart showing the general location thereof.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

865b.822/4

7 T/C 8/5

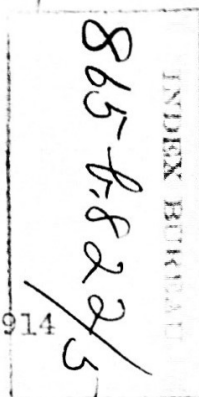


REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

No. 578.

Washington D.C. 30 aprile 1914

Signor Segretario di Stato,



FILED  
JUN 22 1914

Nel segnare ricevuta e ringraziarla della Sua nota in data 16 gennaio u.s. con la quale l'Eccellenza Vostra mi assicurava delle buone disposizioni del Dipartimento del Commercio verso la progettata costruzione di un faro al capo Guardafui, mi onoro, secondo le istruzioni ricevute, di comunicarLe che, in base ai calcoli fatti, la quota annua che il Governo degli Stati Uniti dovrebbe impegnarsi a pagare al R. Governo per la costruzione e manutenzione del faro, è di lire italiane centoventi.

Mi pregio inoltre di trasmettere all'Eccellenza Vostra l'unito schizzo all'uopo fattomi pervenire dal Re-  
gio Governo, dal quale risultano i dati principali del faro e la sua ubicazione, e sarò grato a Vostra Eccellenza se vorrà mettermi in grado di comunicare al mio Governo, al più presto possibile, la decisione finale che il Governo degli Stati Uniti avrà creduto di prendere al riguardo, fiducioso che essa sarà favorevole, data l'utilità del progetto e l'eseguità del contributo richiesto.

Gradisca, Signor Segretario di Stato, l'espressione della mia più alta considerazione.

A Sua Eccellenza

l'Onorevole W.J. Bryan

Segretario di Stato,

Washington D.C.

*Curran*



Mr.

Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy

Washington, D.C., April 30, 1914.

N<sup>o</sup> 578 Mr Secretary of State,

In acknowledging receipt of and thanking you for your note of January 16 last in which Your Excellency assured me of the Department of Commerce's favorable disposition toward the contemplated erection of a light house at Cape Guardafui, I have the honor, in compliance with instructions received, to inform you that it has been computed that the quota to be paid yearly by the Government of the United States to the Royal Government for the construction and operation of the light house amounts to one hundred and twenty Italian lire.

I further have the honor to transmit herewith to Your Excellency a sketch, sent me by the Royal Government for that purpose, showing the main features and site of the light house and I shall be thankful to your Excellency if you will enable me to report to my Government, as soon as possible, the final decision the United States Government may see fit to reach, which I am confident will be favorable owing to the utility of the project and the small quota called for.

Accept, Mr Secretary of State, the expression of my highest consideration

Cusani

Y<sup>rs</sup> Excellency  
The Honorable W. J. Bryan  
Secretary of State  
Washington D.C.

## FARO GUARDAFUI

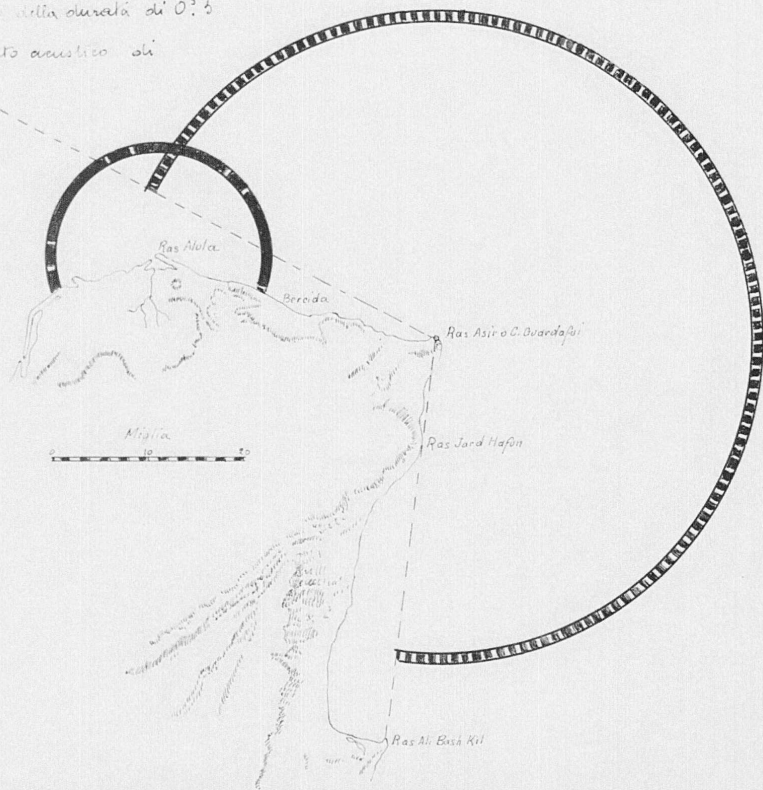
Nella costruzione del faro a Capo Guardafui è compresa anche quella di un faro secondario a Ras. Alula.

Il faro di Capo Guardafui sorgerà in  $\varphi$   $11^{\circ}55'N$   $\lambda$   $51^{\circ}15'E$  circa, avrà la portata di 35 miglia e sarà a lampi regolati ogni 5", ciascuno sempre della durata di 0".5 e sarà dotato di un segnalamento acustico di grande portata.

Il faro a Ras Alula  
 $\varphi$   $12^{\circ}00'N$   $\lambda$   $50^{\circ}45'30"E$   
 sarà un faro a gruppi di  
 2 splendori bianchi della porta-  
 ta di circa mig. 12

Il Capo del Reporto

*Canelli*





May 15, 1914.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of December 13 last and previous correspondence relating to the proposed establishment by the Italian Government of a lighthouse on Cape Guardafui, I have the honor to enclose a translation of a note from the Italian Ambassador at this capital in which he states that the yearly quota due from the United States for the construction and operation of the lighthouse will amount to 120 Italian lire.

The Ambassador encloses a sketch forwarded by his Government showing the main features and site of the lighthouse. He asks to be advised of the final decision of the United States in the matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

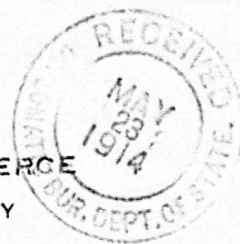
Enclosures:  
From Italian Ambassador,  
April 30, 1914, with  
enclosure.

Counselor.

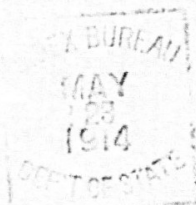
865b.822/5  
7 E/384

865b.822/5

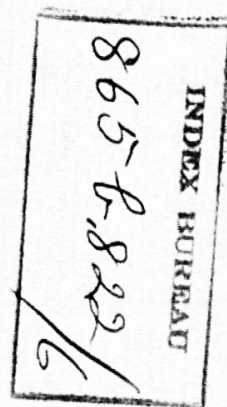
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON



May 22, 1914.



*Ans'd June 19 9c  
To Italian Charge  
File B.*



Sir:

Referring to the State Department's letter dated May 15, 1914, relating to the proposed establishment by the Italian Government of a lighthouse on Cape Guardafui, and inclosing a note from the Italian Ambassador and sketch showing the main features and site of the lighthouse.

I have to advise you that this Department is favorable to the project, for which it appears that a special appropriation by Congress of approximately \$24.00 annually will be necessary to meet the quota due from the United States. It is assumed that if the State Department concurs in this view, it will submit an estimate to Congress for the necessary appropriation, as is done in the case of the appropriation for this Government's contribution toward the maintenance of Cape Spartel and Tangier light on the coast of Morocco.

Respectfully,

*William H. Taft*  
Secretary.

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

FILED  
JUN 22 1914

June 19, 1914.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, stating the favor with which your Department views the project proposed by the Italian Government for the erection and maintenance of a lighthouse on Cape Guardafui at the expense of the governments whose shipping would avail itself of the benefit of the light, and to enclose herewith for your information a copy of the reply which the Department has made to the notes of the Italian Embassy on the subject.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

ROBERT LANSING

Enclosure: Counselor.  
To Italian Chargé d'Affaires,  
June 19, 1914.

865.b.822/6

7 S/c 8/13

statement as to what would be the share of the United

States

Mr. Riccardo Borghetti,

Chargé d'Affaires of Italy.

865.b.822/6

A true copy of  
this signed original  
is  
C

No. 571

June 19, 1914.

Sir:

On September 3 last His Excellency the Marquis Cusani Confalonieri brought to the attention of this Government a proposal of the Government of Italy for the erection and maintenance at Cape Guardafui of a lighthouse, at the cost, for erection and maintenance, of contributing nations whose shipping would avail itself of the benefit of the light.

On October 16 following the Department addressed the Ambassador stating that the Department of Commerce of this Government was favorably disposed towards the Italian Government's project, subject, however, to the necessary action on the part of Congress in appropriating therefor, and requesting to be furnished with an itemized estimate of the cost of construction and maintenance of the proposed lighthouse as well as an approximate statement as to what would be the share of the United

States

Mr. Riccardo Borghetti,

Charge d'Affaires of Italy.

8658.822  
9/

States on the tonnage basis in the cost of construction and the cost of maintenance of the lighthouse.

On April 30, 1914, the Marquis Cusani addressed a further note to this Department stating that it had been computed that the quota to be paid yearly by the Government of the United States to the Government of Italy for the construction and operation of the lighthouse would amount to 120 Italian lire, and requesting that he be enabled to report to his Government as soon as possible the final decision that the Government of the United States should reach.

In reply to this note I have the honor to say that the Government of the United States is favorable to the project and finds no objection to the amount, approximately \$24.00, which would be assessed against it as its quota of the expenses of erection and maintenance. It would seem to be the policy, however, of the Congress of the United States to appropriate for an object of this character only when provided for by treaty. The Department, therefore, does not feel to be in a position, without such a treaty, to give assurance of provision

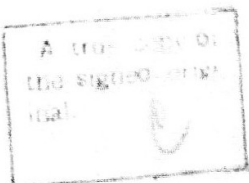
for

for the payment of the quota which would fall to its share. The Department begs, therefore, to suggest that the object which the Government of Italy has in view be accomplished by an international convention, as was the case in the construction and is the case in the maintenance of the lighthouse at Cape Spartel.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

ROBERT LANSING







REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

No. 452.

Washington D.C., 27 maggio 1914.

Signor Segretario di Stato,

Facendo seguito alla mia nota No. 578 del 30 aprile u.s.,  
e secondo le nuove istruzioni ricevute, ho l'onore di rivolgermi  
all'Eccellenza Vostra, pregandola di farmi conoscere, non appena  
sia possibile, se il Governo Federale è disposto a prendere for-  
male impegno per il pagamento della quota annua di lire italiane  
centoventi, per la costruzione e manutenzione del faro al Capo  
Guardafui.

Gradisca, Signor Segretario di Stato, l'espressione del-  
la mia più alta considerazione.

*Cusani*

A Sua Eccellenza  
l'Onorevole W.J. Bryan  
Segretario di Stato,  
Washington D.C.

Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy.

Washington, D.C., May 27, 1914.

10752

Mr Secretary of State.

In continuation of my note no 576 of April 30 last and in compliance with fresh instructions received I have the honor to apply to you Excellency with a request that you will let me know as soon as possible whether the Federal Government is disposed to make a formal Engagement to pay the annual quota of one hundred and twenty Italian lire for the construction and maintenance of the light house at Cape Greco-Safiri.

Accept Mr Secretary of State, the expression of my highest consideration.

Casini

To The Embassy

The Honorable W. J. Bryan

Secretary of State -

Washington D.C.

INDEX BUREAU  
SEP  
10  
1914  
DEPT OF STATE

RECEIVED  
SEP  
10  
1914  
DEPT OF STATE

REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

No. 1424

Manchester, Mass. 7 settembre 1914

✓  
12/17/19-1914-  
Signor Segretario di Stato,  
*file copy*

865-f. 822  
1/5

Con riferimento alla nota di Vostra Eccellenza, in data 19 giugno u.s. No. 571, relativa al contributo chiesto al Governo degli Stati Uniti per l'erezione e manutenzione del Faro al Capo Guardafui, ho l'onore d'informarLa che io non mancai di portare il contenuto di essa a conoscenza della competente R. Autorita'.

S.E. il Ministro degli Affari Esteri, dopo aver, d'accordo col suo Collega della Marina, considerato il desiderio espresso da Vostra Eccellenza che la questione del contributo degli Stati Uniti venisse definita con apposita Convenzione Internazionale, mi ha ora espresso l'avviso suo nel senso che l'aderire alla proposta succitata avrebbe facilmente per risultato di ritardare la definizione della questione.

Ora, in vista degli importanti interessi mondiali che la costruzione del Faro al Capo Guardafui favorirebbe e della opportunita' di procedervi al piu' presto, il R. Governo sarebbe a pregare l'Eccellenza Vostra di voler considerare se non sarebbe possibile al Governo degli Stati Uniti di desistere dalla proposta di cui sopra, la quale fino ad ora non e' stata suggerita

A Sua Eccellenza

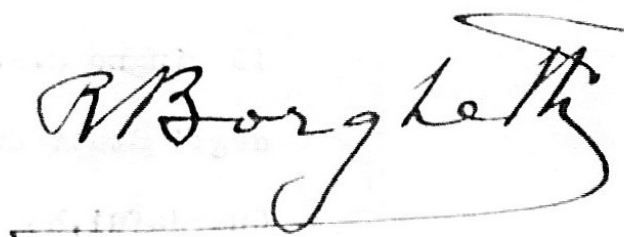
l'Onorevole William J. Bryan

Segretario di Stato,

Washington D.C.

nemmeno dagli Stati maggiormente interessati alla costruzione e manutenzione del detto Faro.

In attesa di ricevere dall'abituale cortesia di Vostra Eccellenza una risposta al riguardo, colgo l'occasione per porgerLe, Signor Segretario di Stato, gli atti della mia piu' alta considerazione.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Borghese'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

# 1424  
FREE TRANSLATION.

Manchester Mass. Sept. 7th 1914

Mr. Secretary of State,

With reference to the note of Your Excellency, dated June 19th 1914, No. 571 concerning the contribution asked of the Government of the United States for the erection and maintenance of a Lighthouse at the Cape Guardafui, I have the honor to inform You that I have not failed to bring the contents thereof to the knowledge of the competent Royal Authority.

His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, after having considered, together with the Minister of the Marine, the desire expressed by Your Excellency that the question of the contribution on the part of the United States be treated and concluded by an apposit International Convention, has now expressed to me his opinion in the sense that, adopting this proposed course of action, the definition of the question would probably be delayed.

Now, in view of the important world interests that the construction of a lighthouse at Cape Guardafui would favor, and of the opportunity to proceed to the same as soon as possible, the Royal Government would ask your Excellency to kindly consider whether it would not be possible to the Government of the United States to desist from the above request, which, so far, has not been made by any of the States which are concerned with the construction and maintenance of the said Lighthouse in a great measure.

Waiting for a reply from the habitual courtesy of Your Excellency, on the subject, I avail myself of the occasion to offer to you, Mr. Secretary of State, the expression of my highest consideration.

signed: Borghetti



No. 609

September 19, 1914.

8658.822  
8

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 7th instant on the subject of the proposed lighthouse at Cape Guardafui. Referring to the suggestion in my note No. 571 of June 19th last that the object in view be accomplished by an international convention similar to that which was concluded in the case of the lighthouse at Cape Spartel, you inquire, under the instructions of your Government, whether it would not be possible to desist from this request, which so far has not been made by any of the other States which are concerned with the construction and maintenance of the lighthouse.

As I had the honor to inform you in my note mentioned, the Department would not, in the absence of a conventional obligation, feel in a position to bind the Government of the United States to the payment of the quota which would fall to its share. The Department is still of the opinion that an international

Mr. Riccardo Borghetti,  
Charge d'Affaires of Italy.



2.

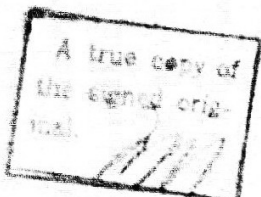
international convention would be the best method to provide for the erection and maintenance of the lighthouse; but inasmuch as your Government does not regard this favorably the Department will recommend to Congress at its next session legislation to enable the Department to give the assurance which your Government desires.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

*Robert Lansing*  
Acting Secretary of State:

865b.822/8

7 S/M 4/8



# DOCUMENT FILE

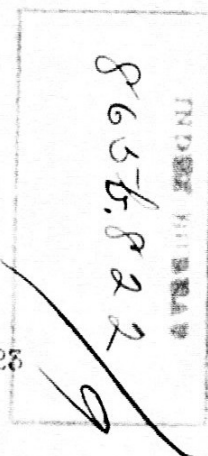
## NOTE

SEE 031. 65 M 27- FOR Despatch # 1212

FROM Rome. ( Keene ) DATED Sept. 27, 1928  
TO NAME

REGARDING: the construction of lighthouses along the Somali Coast, including Cape Guardafui, Ras Hufun and improvements to lighthouse at Alula, by the scientific expedition of three vessels of the Italian Navy.

S



Rome, Italy, Sept. 27, 1923.

Scientific Cruise in the Red Sea by  
Royal Italian Navy Vessels.

I have the honor to inform the Department that the "Giornale d'Italia" of September 21, 1923, states that a scientific cruise will shortly be undertaken in the Red Sea by three vessels of the Royal Italian Navy. It is believed that this information will be of interest among others, to the Hydrographic Office of the Navy Department, to the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Shipping Board as well as to National Scientific Institutions. It is accordingly reproduced in condensed form as follows:

The vessels that will take part in this Cruise are the, "Magnaghi", "Marechiaro", "Gen. Arimondi".

The Hydrographic relief of large zones in the vicinity of Massaua will be investigated, and systematic studies will be made on currents, tides, magnetism and gravity. Biologic research, especially with regard to fisheries, will also be

/ carried

Central File: Decimal File 865B.822, Internal Affairs Of States, Aids To Navigation., Somaliland, Lighthouses., September 3, 1913 - September 27, 1923. September 3, 1913 - September 27, 1923. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109729427/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109729427/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.